



# National Center for Innovation in Small Drinking Water Systems RFA

[http://www.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2013/2013\\_star\\_drinkingwater.html](http://www.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2013/2013_star_drinkingwater.html)

**Deadline to Apply: August 21, 2013**

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# Outline

- Impetus for RFA
- Overview of RFA and Research Areas
- Peer Review Criteria
- Programmatic Review Considerations
- Tips for Grants.gov
- Questions & Answers

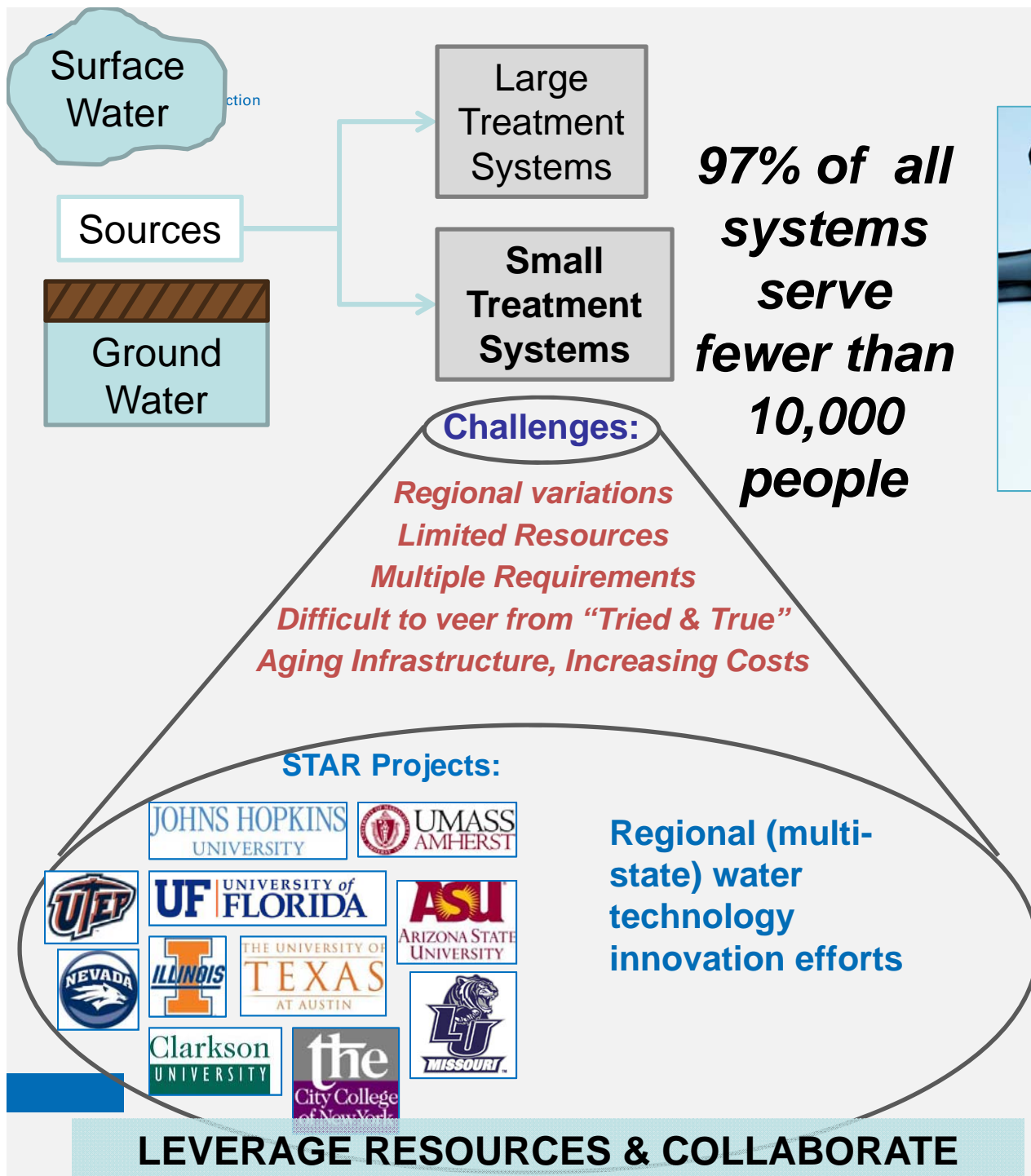


## Helps with 3 of EPA Administrator DW Goals:

1. **Address contaminants in groups rather than individually;**
2. **Foster development of new treatment technologies;**
3. **Use multiple statutes to safeguard water supplies; and**
4. **Enhance state and local partnerships.**

**& OW's Goal** of *Improving Public Health protection for persons served by **small drinking water systems** by strengthening the technical, managerial, and financial capacity of those systems*





**97% of all systems serve fewer than 10,000 people**



**Nationally Safer Water & Increased Public Health Protection**

### National Center R&D

1. Innovations in management of grouped contaminants
2. National acceptance & applicability
3. Sustainability & PH Metrics



## RFA Goal

*The primary goal of this RFA is to support research, identification, development, demonstration and ease of acceptance and applicability of **technologies and approaches that can reduce, control or eliminate known or anticipated groups of contaminants, improve measurement and monitoring, apply novel information technology systems, enhance management practices and improve the sustainability of small drinking water systems.***







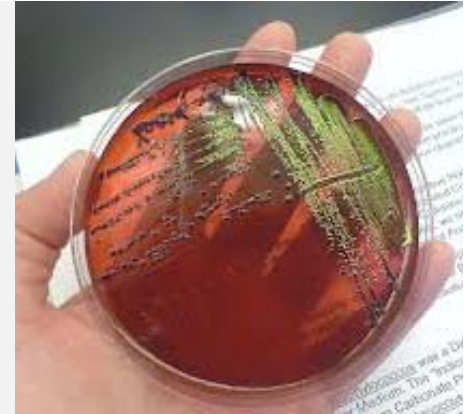
## Applications should be responsive to all research questions below (See RFA Section I.D):

- By what means will you identify, develop, enhance or improve technological and information management innovations so that, relative to existing practices, small drinking water system operations are: more affordable, reliable, simpler to operate and maintain, easier to monitor and control, or less energy-intensive, all while removing or mitigating groups of contaminants (or their precursors) from drinking water, and improving system sustainability?
- How will the performance and sustainability of innovations be demonstrated? What means will be used to facilitate national acceptance and ready applicability of the innovations? How will collaboration on both be ensured?
- By what metrics will the results and outputs of the Center's research, identification, demonstration and implementation efforts be shown to have drinking water quality improvements, public health benefits, and optimal costs and energy usage?

# Applied innovations in treatment of contaminants as groups should lead to a multitude of beneficial **Outputs:**

- Websites, data sets, testing protocols, reports, presentations, educational materials, publications, etc...
- Products, systems or approaches that will enable the widespread utilization of innovative technology
- Small drinking water systems better able to use more sustainable practices.
- Increased interaction between all sectors





## & Outcomes:

1. Efficient management of co-occurring contaminants or groups of contaminants or their precursors with concomitant public health benefits.
2. Widespread availability of novel technologies and approaches, demonstration protocols and results for use by state and local agencies and other interested parties.
3. Implementation of innovative, cost-effective technologies and approaches for small drinking water systems.
4. Improvement of state and local agencies' capacity to enable compliance with drinking water standards.
5. Improved sustainability of small drinking water systems
6. **Reduced Public Health risks** on a **national level**



## Application Peer Review: RFA Section V.A (descending importance)

- I. Research Proposal
- II. Overall Center
- III. Administrative Unit
- IV. Responsiveness
- V. Facilities and Equipment
- VI. Budget



## Program Relevancy Review: RFA Section V.B

- Proposals with Excellent or Very Good peer review scores receive internal EPA review
- Relevance to EPA research priorities
- PI requested to provide info re:
  - prior & current grantors for last 3 years, of similar size and scope
  - management & completion
  - results



# Helpful Reminders for Electronic Submitters using Grants.gov

## Electronic Submissions

- Get your Grants.gov account early
- DUNS and SAM Registration (is registration active?)
- Check all the application content before you “Save and Submit”
- Plan to submit ahead of the deadline (a day or two early)
- Don’t wait until the last minute



# Helpful Reminders for Electronic Submitters using Grants.gov

## Problem Solving

- Forgot a section or found an error -> resubmit
- Problems:
  - Adobe software versions; <http://epa.gov/ncер/rfa/forms/>
  - Zip Code +4
- Call the Help Desk, get an incident number!
  - 1-800-518-4726
- Write an email and explain ASAP!

## Frequently Asked Questions

- Eligibility: See RFA Section III
- Related Projects: Visit the following link for information about the previous Small Systems RFA's 11 individual grants
  - [http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer\\_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/recipients.display/rfa\\_id/537](http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/recipients.display/rfa_id/537)
  - Research and demonstrations funded through this solicitation will complement on-going efforts in ORD's Safe and Sustainable Water Research Program (<http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/ord/sswr.html>), including existing STAR projects.



## Useful Links

- Partnerships and collaborations;  
[http://www.epa.gov/ogd/competition/solicitation\\_provisions.htm#Contracts\\_subawards](http://www.epa.gov/ogd/competition/solicitation_provisions.htm#Contracts_subawards)
- Multiple Investigator applications;  
<http://rbm.nih.gov/toolkit.htm>
- For private firms; refer to [www.sbir.gov](http://www.sbir.gov)
- SAM - System for Award Management;  
<https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/>
- DUNS; <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>

## Questions?

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